

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
September 11, 2015

TODAY IS PATRIOT DAY... may we all take time for remembrance, service and honor. May we never forget the significance of this day.

A big welcome for new staff members... Selena Parrish has joined the city hall staff and Tyler Cox has joined the golf course staff. We're happy to have them.

Dates to Remember:

September 17, 2015 – City Commission Workshop
September 21, 2015 – City Commission Meeting
September 28, 2015 – Final Budget Hearing

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- 2 **NEW BUSINESSES** have received their Local Business Tax Receipt for the City of Clewiston: J & DJ Sod Service has opened an office at 321 E El Paso and J. Taylor Electric is located at 417 W Sugarland Hwy;
- The Florida Community Health Centers acquired 319 West Trinidad Avenue and has demolished the structure located on the property. Their plan is to construct an addition on the west side of their existing building at 315 South WC Owen Avenue and expand their parking lot to include both 312 West Ventura Avenue and 319 West Trinidad Avenue.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- Do you find you have no time to come to the library but you love reading? Your library's e-book collection is the answer. Free downloads are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In fact, all year round, your collection is open for your reading pleasure. Simply, make sure you have your library card and pin to download your free e-book. You can use *Kindles, iPads, Nooks, or other tablets*. For more information, please call the library at 863-983-1493 – we'll be glad to tell you about this wonderful addition.

Did you Know???

- Your library has a new resource called "Get Help Florida". This site is here to help you find valuable government information easily. There are thousands of e-government federal, state and county programs & services, organized by category. These include information on housing and foreclosure, children and family issues, business and employment, consumer protection, information by county, and many, many more

categories. As a statewide portal, this website is intended to provide government and non-profit resources for those in need. *Check it out at hendrylibraries.org !!!*

- Remember to visit www.hendrylibraries.org Your library truly has a lot to offer.

Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:

- Stay up to date with all Clewiston Golf Course news. Visit the City website at www.clewiston-fl.gov, follow the golf link and sign up on Constant Contact. You will automatically be added to the golf course e-mail blast.
- Golf lessons available - contact Robbie Rush at 863-983-1448.
- The greens were sprayed with fungicide this week.
- Get your grips re-done. Contact the golf shop at 863-983-1448.
- The Navy Cadets held their annual golf tournament on Thursday September 10th. They had 20 players.
- Masonic Lodge Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday September 12, 2015. You can sign-up in the golf shop. Please call 863-983-1448 for more information. The golf course will be open for regular play. The tournament starts at 9 a.m.
- Parent-Child Championship is scheduled for Sunday September 27, 2015. Sign-up in the golf shop or call 863-983-1448 for more information. At this point, we have 12 teams signed up. Tournament starts at 3 p.m. and is 9 holes (Modified Alternate Shot).
- **Clewiston Golf Course is now Junior/Kids friendly.** We have set up a new short course for the kids. The new tee color is green and measures 1854 yards in distance. Front nine only.
- Clewiston Golf Course will be hosting the District High School Boy's and Girl's Golf Tournament Tuesday October 13, 2015. Tournament starts at 10 a.m.
- 2015 Men's Club Championship is Saturday and Sunday October 17-18, 2015. Sign-up in the golf shop or call 863-983-1448. There is a low net division and low gross division. The golf course will be open for regular play both days.
- Seminoles In Recovery Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday October 24, 2015 with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. The golf course will be open for regular play.
- **Putts Fore Pets Golf Tournament is scheduled for October 31, 2015. Sign-up is in the golf shop. Call 863-983-1448. Proceeds to benefit Clewiston Animal Shelter.**

Recreation Director Lance Ramer Reports:

- Please visit www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- The remodeling of the Criminal Investigations Division at the Police Department is near complete and the detectives are able to work more efficiently with the establishing of the evidence processing room. A big thanks to all involved – a lot of hard work has gone into this project.

- The patrol officers have been doing a great job with traffic enforcement. As a result we have made several narcotic related and warrant arrests. Patrol identified and arrested a suspect in connection with a local bank fraud totaling in the amount over \$4,500.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
 - 983** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 564** Complaints Investigated
 - 90** Traffic Citations Issued
 - 17** Arrests Made
 - 33** Merchant Escorts Provided
 - 25** City Ordinance / Code Violations
 - 14** Rental Inspections
 - 17** Alarms Responded To
 - 7** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Utilities Director Williams reports:

PLEASE BE AWARE OF UTILITY PAYMENT SCAMS: Scam artists are calling Utility customers, posing as employees of Clewiston Utilities and threatening disconnection of services if payment is not made immediately. Please be aware of the following.

- 1) **Clewiston Utilities will NEVER request you to purchase money cards or gift cards to pay your account over the phone.**
- 2) **Clewiston Utilities will NEVER contact our customers on the weekend and threaten disconnection of services.**
- 3) **Clewiston Utilities will NEVER speak to our customers in a threatening tone.**

If you feel you have been a victim of this scam, please contact Clewiston Utilities to verify the call or the Clewiston Police Department and file a report.

- The Water/Sewer crew made a new water tap 545 East Avenida Del Rio, checked all lift stations and is running a new 2" water line from Harlem Academy to Georgia Avenue. Three water/sewer services were disconnected for demolition of property.
- The Electric crew changed out a transformer at the Wastewater Treatment Plant that was hit by lightning, repaired an underground service at the Civic Center in Harlem and ran a new underground service in Orchard Park. One service in Harlem and two services in town were removed for demolition. A pole was changed out on Feeder 3 early Sunday morning due to a vehicle hitting pole and three poles were changed out in Harlem as part of regular maintenance. A service was repaired on Trocadero Street.
- Effective October 1, 2015 Clewiston Utilities will no longer mail the yellow reminder/late notice.
- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom or the City's website page

www.clewiston-fl.gov. You may update your information at any time though the same link.

- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov or call our office.
- **DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION!** Visit our office today.
- **ONLINE BILL PAY IS AVAILABLE** on our web site at www.clewiston-fl.gov or www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl.

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- **Mosquito Control:** Well... we enjoyed it while it lasted, but the weather conditions have produced the best mosquito growing we have experienced. We are still spraying with both ground trucks and utilizing air missions. The trap identifications are determining that the mosquitoes we are having the most problems with are migrating in from outside our treatment area. There have been no disease carrying mosquitoes found. Residents should avoid going outside during peak times of activity, but if necessary, use a mosquito repellent.
- **Street Maintenance:**
 - We have been focusing on mowing grass this week.
 - Staff replaced and relocated the signage at the boat basin.
 - We have called for locates at two locations preparing for a drainage repair and the removal of some trees that are in a power line.
- **US27 Rebuild: Began on June 15, 2015.** Day 86 of 150 into the project. There was a problem with one of the subcontractors installing the conduit for the traffic control and pedestrian crossings. The State is in the process of resolving this issue.
- **West Pasadena Project:** Bids will be opened on September 17, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in City Hall.
- **Boat Basin project:** The contractor has finished the seal and striping portion of the project and has seven more wheel stops to install. The City Engineer and Public Works Director did an inspection and put together a punch list to be addressed before the project will be accepted. The configuration of the parking and flow of traffic has been changed and users are asked to be mindful of these changes.
- **Civic Park Rebuild:** The forms for the columns and the retaining wall bench have been built and are scheduled to be installed and made ready for concrete. We hope to pour the concrete before the end of next week.
- **Veterans Memorial Fund raiser:** A big THANK YOU to the local Elks Club and all who purchased ribs during the fundraiser event over the Labor Day weekend. The amount raised for the park rebuild has yet to be determined. Those that want to be part of this great effort please call Sean at 863-983-1471.